

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

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- 1 1. A method implemented by a digital processing system for processing media  
2 data, said method comprising:  
3 creating on a first digital processing system a set of data to indicate how to  
4 transmit a time related sequence of media data according to a  
5 transmission protocol; and  
6 storing said set of data on a storage device coupled to the first digital  
7 processing system, wherein said set of data is a time related sequence  
8 of data associated with and separate from said time related sequence of  
9 media data.
- 1 2. A method as in claim 1 wherein said set of data is stored as a track of  
2 indicating data, and wherein said transmission protocol comprises a packet data  
3 protocol.
- 1 3. A method as in claim 1 further comprising:  
2 determining a format of said time related sequence of media data before  
3 creating said set of data;  
4 determining said transmission protocol before creating said set of data,  
5 wherein said transmission protocol is used to transmit said time related  
6 sequence of media data which has said format.

- 1 4. A method as in claim 1 further comprising:  
2 transmitting packets of data representing said time related sequence of media  
3 data according to said transmission protocol.
- 1 5. A method as in claim 4 further comprising:  
2 transmitting said set of data to a second digital processing system, which  
3 second digital processing system, in response to receiving said set of  
4 data, generates said packets of data.
- 1 6. A method as in claim 4 wherein for each of said packets, said set of data refers  
2 to data in at least one of a sequence of image data or a sequence of audio data  
3 associated with said time related sequence of media data.
- 1 7. A method as in claim 5 wherein said first digital processing system provides  
2 said set of data to a server digital processing system which stores said set of data and  
3 transmits said packets of data to a receiving digital processing system.
- 1 8. A machine readable medium containing executable program instructions,  
2 which when executed on a digital processing system cause the digital processing  
3 system to perform a method comprising:  
4 retrieving a set of data which indicates how to transmit a time related sequence  
5 of media data according to a transmission protocol;

6 transmitting data representative of said time related sequence of media data  
7 according to said set of data, wherein said set of data is a time related  
8 sequence of data associated with and separate from said time related  
9 sequence of media data.

1 9. The machine readable medium of claim 8, wherein said set of data is stored as  
2 a track of indicating data, and wherein said transmission protocol comprises a packet  
3 data protocol.

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1 10. The machine readable medium of claim 8, wherein execution of said  
2 executable program instructions further cause said digital processing system to  
3 perform the method comprising:  
4 determining a format of said time related sequence of media data;  
5 determining said transmission protocol, wherein said transmission protocol is  
6 used to transmit said time related sequence of media data which has  
7 said format.

1 11. The machine readable medium of claim 10, wherein execution of said  
2 executable program instructions further cause said digital processing system to  
3 perform the method comprising:  
4 transmitting packets of data representing said time related sequence of media  
5 data according to said transmission protocol.

1 12. The machine readable medium of claim 11, wherein for each of said packets,  
2 said set of data refers to data in at least one of a sequence of image data or a sequence  
3 of audio data associated with said time related sequence of media data.

1 13. The machine readable medium of claim 8, comprising a magnetic storage area,  
2 wherein at least one of said executable program instructions and said time related  
3 sequence of media data is stored in said magnetic storage area.

1 14. The machine readable medium of claim 8, comprising an optical storage area,  
2 wherein at least one of said executable program instructions and said time related  
3 sequence of media data is stored in said optical storage area.

1 15. The machine readable medium of claim 8, comprising an electronic storage  
2 area, wherein at least one of said executable program instructions and said time related  
3 sequence of media data is stored in said electronic storage area.

1 16. An apparatus comprising:  
2 a first digital processing system comprising a first processor to generate a set  
3 of data associated with transmission of a time related sequence of  
4 media data according to a transmission protocol, wherein said set of  
5 data is a time related sequence of data associated with and separate  
6 from said time related sequence of media data.

1 17. The apparatus of claim 16, further comprising:  
2 a second digital processing system, coupled to said first digital processing system, to  
3 receive said set of data from said first digital processing system, said second  
4 processor comprising:


- 5 a second processor;  
6 a first storage area to store said media data; and  
7 a second storage area to store said set of data.

1 18. The apparatus of claim 17, wherein said second digital processing system is  
2 coupled to a data communication link to provide packets of data representing said time  
3 related sequence of media data according to said transmission protocol.

1 19. The apparatus of claim 18, wherein for each of said packets, said set of data  
2 refers to data in at least one of a sequence of image data or a sequence of audio data  
3 associated with said time related sequence of media data.

1 20. A computer readable medium comprising:  
2 a time related sequence of media data;  
3 a set of data which, when processed by a digital processing system, indicates  
4 to said digital processing system how to transmit said time related  
5 sequence of media data according to a transmission protocol, wherein  
6 said set of data is a time related sequence of data associated with and  
7 separate from said time related sequence of media data.

1 21. The computer readable medium of claim 20, wherein said set of data is stored  
2 as a track of indicating data, and wherein said transmission protocol comprises a  
3 packet data protocol.

1 22. The computer readable medium of claim 20, further comprising:  
2 a first set of instructions to cause a digital processing system to determine a  
3 format of said time related sequence of media data;  
4 a second set of instructions to cause said digital processing system to  
5 determine said transmission protocol, wherein said transmission  
6 protocol is used to transmit said time related sequence of media data  
7 which has said format. 

1 23. The computer readable medium of claim 22, wherein said set of data is stored  
2 as a track of indicating data, and wherein said transmission protocol comprises a  
3 packet data protocol.

1 24. The computer readable medium of claim 21, further comprising a set of  
2 instructions to cause a digital processing system to generate packets representing said  
3 time related sequence of media data, wherein for each of said packets, said set of data  
4 refers to data in at least one of a sequence of image data and a sequence of audio data  
5 associated with said time related sequence of media data.

1 25. The computer readable medium of claim 20, comprising a magnetic storage  
2 area, wherein at least one of said time related sequence of media data and said set of  
3 data is stored in said magnetic storage area.

1 26. The computer readable medium of claim 20, comprising an optical storage  
2 area, wherein at least one of said time related sequence of media data and set of  
3 instructions is stored in said optical storage area.

1 27. The computer readable medium of claim 20, comprising an electronic storage  
2 area, wherein at least one of said time related sequence of media data and said set of  
3 data is stored in said electronic storage area.

1 28. A computer readable medium containing executable computer program  
2 instructions, which when executed on a first digital processing system cause the first  
3 digital processing system to perform a method comprising:  
4 generating a set of data to indicate a method to transmit a time related sequence  
5 of media data according to a transmission protocol, wherein said set of  
6 data is a time related sequence of data associated with and separate  
7 from said time related sequence of media data; and  
8 storing said set of data.

1 29. The computer readable medium of claim 28, wherein said set of data is stored  
2 as a track of indicating data, and wherein said transmission protocol comprises a  
3 packet data protocol.

1 30. The machine readable medium of claim 28, wherein said executable program  
2 instructions further cause the first digital processing system to perform the method  
3 comprising:

4 determining a format of said time related sequence of media data;  
5 determining said transmission protocol, wherein said transmission protocol is  
6 used to transmit said time related sequence of media data which has  
7 said format.

1 31. The machine readable medium of claim 28, wherein said executable program  
2 instructions further cause the first digital processing system to perform the method  
3 comprising:

4 generating packets of data representing said time related sequence of media  
5 data according to said transmission protocol; and  
6 transmitting said packets to a second digital processing system.

1 32. The machine readable medium of claim 28, wherein said executable program  
2 instructions further cause the digital processing system to perform the method  
3 comprising:



4 transmitting said set of data to a second digital processing system, wherein  
5 said second digital processing system utilizes said set of data to  
6 generate packets of data representing said time related sequence of  
7 media data according to said transmission protocol.

1 33. The machine readable medium of claim 31, wherein for each of said packets,  
2 said set of data refers to data in at least one of a sequence of image data and a sequence  
3 of audio data associated with said time related sequence of media data.

1 34. The machine readable medium of claim 22, wherein for each of said packets,  
2 said set of data refers to data in at least one of said sequence of image data and said  
3 sequence of audio data.

1 35. The machine readable medium of claim 32, wherein said second digital  
2 processing system, in response to said set of data, transmits said packets of data to  
3 another digital processing system.

1 36. An apparatus for processing media data, said apparatus comprising:  
2 a first means for generating a set of data associated with transmission of a time  
3 related sequence of media data according to a transmission protocol,  
4 wherein said set of data is a time related sequence of data associated  
5 with and separate from said time related sequence of media data; and  
6 a second means for storing said first set of data.

1 37. The apparatus of claim 36, further comprising:  
2 a third means for transmitting packets of data representing said time related  
3 sequence of media data.

1 38. The apparatus of claim 37, wherein said set of data identifies at least a portion  
2 of said packets of data.

1 39. The apparatus of claim 37, wherein said set of data provides at least a portion  
2 of the information included in said packets of data.

1 40. The apparatus of claim 37, further comprising:  
2 a third means for transmitting said set of data to a server means, said server  
3 means having means for generating packets of data representing said  
4 time related sequence of media data for transmission to a receiver  
5 means.

1 41. A method of processing media data, said method comprising:  
2 storing a time related sequence of media data;  
3 storing a set of data to enable a first digital processing system to generate,  
4 according to a transmission protocol, data packets representing said  
5 time related sequence of media data, wherein said set of data is a time

6 related sequence of data associated with said time related sequence of  
7 media data.

1 42. The method of claim 41, wherein said set of data provides at least a portion of  
2 the information included in said data packets.

1 43. The method of claim 41, wherein said set of data identifies at least a portion of  
2 the information included in said data packets.

1 44. The method of claim 41, further comprising:  
2 generating said set of data at a second digital processing system;  
3 said second digital processing system transmitting said set of data to said first  
4 digital processing system; and  
5 said first digital processing system generating said data packets in response to  
6 receiving said set of data.

1 45. The method of claim 44, further comprising:  
2 said first digital processing system transmitting said data packets to another  
3 digital processing system for presentation as a media object.

1 46. A method implemented by a digital processing system for processing media  
2 data, said method comprising:

3 generating on a first digital processing system a first time related sequence of  
4 data to indicate how to transmit a second time related sequence of data  
5 according to a transmission protocol, wherein said second time related  
6 sequence of data is associated with time-based media, and wherein said  
7 first time related sequence of data is associated with said second time  
8 related sequence of data; and  
9 storing said first time related sequence of data.

1 47. A method as in claim 46, wherein said first time related sequence of data is  
2 stored as a track of indicating data, and wherein said transmission protocol comprises  
3 a packet data protocol.

1 48. A method as in claim 46, further comprising:  
2 determining a format of said second time related sequence of data prior to  
3 generating said first time related sequence of data; and  
4 determining said transmission protocol prior to generating said first time  
5 related sequence of data, wherein said transmission protocol is used to  
6 transmit said second time related sequence of data which has said  
7 format.

1 49. A method as in claim 46, further comprising:  
2 transmitting packets of data representing said second time related sequence of  
3 data according to said transmission protocol.

1 50. A method as in claim 49, further comprising:  
2 transmitting said first time related sequence of data to a second digital  
3 processing system, which second digital processing system, in  
4 response to receiving said first time related sequence of data, generates  
5 said packets of data.

1 51. A method as in claim 49, wherein for each of said packets, said first time  
2 related sequence of data refers to at least one of a sequence of image data or a  
3 sequence of audio data associated with said second time related sequence of data.

1 52. A method as in claim 50, wherein said first digital processing system provides  
2 said first time related sequence of data to a server digital processing system which  
3 stores said first time related sequence of data and transmits said packets of data to a  
4 receiving digital processing system.

1 53. A method as in claim 50, further comprising presenting said time related  
2 sequence of media data on at least one of said first digital processing system and said  
3 second digital processing system.

1 54. A method as in claim 46, wherein said second time related sequence of data is  
2 stored on a read-only memory (ROM).

1 55. A method as in claim 54, wherein said read-only memory (ROM) comprises a  
2 optical storage medium.

1 56. A method as in claim 54, wherein said second time related sequence of data is  
2 packetized according to said first time related sequence of data without performing at  
3 least one of a storing and a formatting operation on said second time related sequence  
4 of data.